



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 2002-IP-006716 U1 USA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: David J. Steele
Serial No.: 10/669,759
Filed: September 24, 2003
Entitled: HIGH PRESSURE MULTIPLE
BRANCH WELLBORE JUNCTION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-SB-08, the Applicant hereby calls the examiner's attention to the following information of which he is aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56. Copies of the listed references, other than U.S. patents, are enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. Patents:

4,068,729	4,099,783	4,222,611	4,249,777	4,396,075	4,415,205
4,444,276	4,573,541	4,852,666	5,052,482	5,085,275	5,318,122
2,492,079	4,396,230	3,330,349	1,900,163	5,012,877	5,560,435
6,431,283	6,390,198				

Publications:

Maurer Engineering, "Evaluation of Branch and Horizontal Boreholes for In Situ Leach Mining," dated July, 1980

TAML, "TAML Classification System," dated 2003

Baker Hughes, "Downhole Splitter System," undated

Baker Hughes, "Downhole Splitter System," dated November 21, 2002

SPE 69712, "Use of a Fullbore-Access Level 3 Multilateral Junction in the Orinoco Heavy Oil Belt, Venezuela," dated 2001

Cementing Solutions, Inc., "JIP Studies Cement Integrity," dated February, 2002

Schlumberger, "Rapid Tie Back Quad System," dated March, 2002

Sperry-Sun, "ITBS Isolated Tie-Back System," dated 2000

Sperry-Sun, "PACE-6 Pressure-Actuated Casing Exit System," dated 2000

Sperry-Sun, "Vector Block," dated 2000

Sperry-Sun, "Multilateral Products, Services, and Solutions," cover, copyright notice and pages 32 & 33, dated 2000

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), which provides for the timely filing of an Information Disclosure Statement before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Written notification that the enclosed documents have been considered in their entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



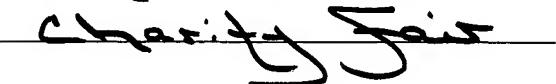
Marlin R. Smith
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Dated: Nov. 12, 2003

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,759
Filing Date	SEPTEMBER 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	DAVID J. STEELE
Group Art Unit	UNASSIGNED
Examiner Name	UNASSIGNED
Attorney Docket Number	2002-IP-006716 U1 USA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,068,729		PEEVEY	01-17-78	
		4,099,783		VERTY et al.	07-11-78	
		4,222,611		LARSON et al.	09-16-80	
		4,249,777		MORRELL et al.	02-10-81	
		4,396,075		WOOD et al.	08-02-83	
		4,415,205		REHM et al.	11-15-83	
		4,444,276		PETERSON, JR.	04-24-84	
		4,573,541		JOSSEE et al.	03-04-86	
		4,852,666		BRUNET et al.	08-01-89	
		5,052,482		GONDOUNI	10-01-91	
		5,318,122		MURRAY et al.	06-07-94	
		2,492,079		R. E. WILEY	12-20-49	
		4,396,230		WOOD et al.	08-02-83	
		3,330,349		W. D. OWSLEY et al.	07-11-67	
		1,900,163		D. DANA et al.	03-07-33	
		5,012,877		WINTERS et al.	05-07-91	
		5,560,435		SHARP	10-01-96	
		6,431,283		DALE	08-13-02	
		6,390,198		BROOKS et al.	05-21-02	
		5,085,275		GONDOUNI	02-04-92	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

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of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,759
Filing Date	SEPTEMBER 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	DAVID J. STEELE
Group Art Unit	UNASSIGNED
Examiner Name	UNASSIGNED
Attorney Docket Number	2002-IP-006716 U1 USA

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		MAURER ENGINEERING, "EVALUATION OF BRANCH AND HORIZONTAL BOREHOLES FOR IN SITU LEACH MINING," dated July, 1980	
		TAML, "TAML CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM," dated 2003	
		BAKER HUGHES, "DOWNHOLD SPLITTER SYSTEM," undated	
		BAKER HUGHES, "DOWNHOLE SPLITTER SYSTEM," dated November 21, 2002	
		SPE 69712, "USE OF A FULLBORE-ACCESS LEVEL 3 MULTILATERAL JUNCTION IN THE ORINOCO HEAVY OIL BELT, VENEZUELA," dated 2001	
		CEMENTING SOLUTIONS, INC., "JIP STUDIES CEMENT INTEGRITY," dated FEBRUARY, 2002	
		SCHLUMBERGER, "RAPID TIE BACK QUAD SYSTEM," dated MARCH, 2002	
		SPERRY-SUN, "ITBS ISOLATED TIE-BACK SYSTEM," dated 2000	
		SPERRY-SUN PACE-6 PRESSURE-ACTUATED CASING EXIT SYSTEM," dated 2000	
		SPERRY-SUN, "VECTOR BLOCK," dated 2000	
		SPERRY-SUN, "MULTILATERAL PRODUCTS, SERVICES, AND SOLUTIONS," COVER, COPYRIGHT NOTICE AND PAGES 32 & 33, dated 2000	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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